



Department of Homeland Security Daily Open Source Infrastructure Report for 8 December 2008

Current Nationwide
Threat Level is



[For info click here](http://www.dhs.gov/)
<http://www.dhs.gov/>

- According to IDG News Service, researchers at BitDefender have discovered a new type of malicious software that collects passwords for banking sites but targets only Firefox users. (See item [6](#))
- Reuters reports that Facebook's 120 million users are being targeted by a virus dubbed "Koobface" that uses the social network's messaging system to infect PCs. (See item [20](#))

DHS Daily Open Source Infrastructure Report Fast Jump

Production Industries: [Energy; Chemical; Nuclear Reactors, Materials and Waste;](#)
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Service Industries: [Banking and Finance; Transportation; Postal and Shipping;](#)
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Energy Sector

Current Electricity Sector Threat Alert Levels: **Physical: ELEVATED,**
Cyber: ELEVATED

Scale: LOW, GUARDED, ELEVATED, HIGH, SEVERE [Source: ISAC for the Electricity Sector (ES-ISAC) –
<http://www.esisac.com>]

1. *December 4, WFOR 4 Miami* – (Florida) **Explosion at E.M.C Used Oil Corp in Doral.** An explosion killed a worker Thursday afternoon at a northwest Miami-Dade oil recycling plant. The man was welding repairs to the tank of an oil tanker truck when fumes in the tank were ignited by the welding torch, and it exploded. Miami-Dade Fire Rescue responded to the scene at E.M.C. Oil Corporation warehouse near Doral. When they got there they found two injured victims, one of whom died on scene. The explosion caused the front of a tanker trailer to blow out, knocking the tractor flat on its face, the explosion killing the worker and injuring his son. A Miami-Dade Fire lieutenant told CBS4 that it is not unusual to perform welding repairs on oil tanks, but it is necessary that the tank be full to eliminate air pockets where fumes may collect and cause an explosion.

Source: <http://cbs4.com/local/Oil.Fire.Explosion.2.880159.html>

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Chemical Industry Sector

2. *December 4, Beaufort Gazette* – (South Carolina) **Muriatic acid spill on SC 170 reroutes traffic.** A muriatic acid spill on South Carolina 170 led officials to close a portion of the road and divert traffic for several hours while the Southern Beaufort County Hazmat and Rescue team cleaned the scene. At least five, 1-gallon containers of the acid were involved in the incident. The amount that actually spilled on the road was not known Thursday night. An officer of the Beaufort County Sheriff's Office said officials believe the containers fell from a truck. They did not know who was responsible for the spill. The spill occurred around 5:50 p.m. Hazmat crews arrived and began cleaning up the spill around 7:20 p.m. Roads were expected to reopen around 8:30.

Source: <http://www.beaufortgazette.com/news/local/briefs/story/639216.html>

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Nuclear Reactors, Materials, and Waste Sector

3. *December 3, Buffalo News* – (New York) **Study urges removing all waste from West Valley nuclear site.** Excavating and removing all the radioactive material from the West Valley nuclear waste site is costly in the short term but cheaper and safer for area residents in the long run, a new study of the site cleanup found. The study's authors say permanently burying nuclear waste at the Cattaraugus County facility would lead to higher costs and risks of radiation poisoning. "It is significantly less expensive over the long term to excavate the waste and remove it from the site than it is to keep it buried on the site," a senior consultant with Synapse Energy Economics of Massachusetts said at a news conference Tuesday in downtown Buffalo. The study is billed as the first of its kind to assess the full cost of cleaning up the site. It was released one week after the federal and state governments put out a draft report with their own ratings of the options for the site cleanup. This statement — from the Department of Energy and New York State Energy Research and Development Authority — favors a phased shutdown of the facility that would clean up part of the site but leave some radioactive material. The new study recommends the full excavation and removal of waste from the site, even though the work could take 70 or more years and cost \$9.9 billion. The cost of maintaining the site while the waste is buried there could reach \$13 billion to \$27 billion — in the worst case — over the next 1,000 years.

Source: <http://www.buffalonews.com/cityregion/story/511979.html>

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Defense Industrial Base Sector

Nothing to report

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Banking and Finance Sector

4. *December 5, Ecommerce Journal* – (National) **Beware of PayPal malicious worms.**
PayPal, an online payment system, has been found sending fake e-mails, looking similar to its log-in page. Security experts state that fake e-mails are hard to recognize unless the recipients, PayPal's customers in this case, take a close look at them. The difference that those emails make is that they contain a .ZIP attachment in comparison to usual PayPal e-mail messages that would ask the recipients to go through a link included and enter personal information. The text of the new e-mail informs recipients about some hacking actions having affected their PayPal accounts, and asks them to open the .ZIP file that is "a report, sent in order to provide assistance of the company on the hacking." Consequently, opening the file the recipient's system gets attacked by a malicious worm, identified by security firm Trend Micro as wormpoison.la. It follows routines that resemble the infamous Peer-to-Peer (P2P) file-sharing application called Kazaa. Another threat caused by the company is a link to secure.uninitialized.real.error.com, which is included in official e-mails sent to its customers for confirming recent payments. The news reported that PayPal has called this link an official address to avail the service. Recipients would have to configure their systems to read the email, as HTML failed to recognize the authenticity of the link. A spokesman for eBay, the parent company of PayPal, wrote in an email that the confusion happened due to an internal error in PayPal that was already corrected on November 18, 2008.
Source: http://ecommerce-journal.com/news/11696_beware_of_paypal_malicious_worms?drgn=12
5. *December 4, CNNMoney.com* – (National) **Programs quietly easing credit crunch.**
CNN Money reports that two new government programs aimed at easing short-term liquidity concerns for financial institutions have started to take hold. The first, the Federal Reserve's Commercial Paper Funding Facility, allows companies to sell highly rated 3-month debt to the government in exchange for ultra-low interest rates. A Fed report released Thursday showed that the key market for business lending has expanded for the sixth straight week. That second program, the Temporary Liquidity Guarantee Program, allows the FDIC to guarantee the payment of newly issued unsecured bank debt with greater than a one-month maturity, in exchange for a nominal fee. The FDIC will guarantee a bank's issuance of debt, usually in the form of corporate bonds, for up to 125 percent of a bank's total debt outstanding as of September 30 that was scheduled to mature on or before June 30, 2009. In just its second week, the FDIC's guarantee program has attracted numerous participants, including Citigroup General Electric's finance division GE Capital, JPMorgan Chase, Wells Fargo, Bank of America, and Goldman Sachs, which only two months ago applied for "bank holding company" status so it could receive government aid for banks.
Source:
http://money.cnn.com/2008/12/04/news/economy/corporate_debt/?postversion=2008120414
6. *December 4, IDG News Service* – (International) **Firefox users targeted by rare piece**

of malware. Researchers at BitDefender have discovered a new type of malicious software that collects passwords for banking sites but targets only Firefox users. The malware, which BitDefender dubbed “Trojan.PWS.ChromeInject.A” sits in Firefox’s add-ons folder, said the head of BitDefender’s lab. The malware runs when Firefox is started and uses JavaScript to identify more than 100 financial and money transfer Web sites, including Barclays, Wachovia, Bank of America, and PayPal along with two dozen or so Italian and Spanish banks. When it recognizes a Web site, it will collect logins and passwords, forwarding that information to a server in Russia. Firefox has been continually gaining market share against main competitor Internet Explorer since its debut four years ago, which may be one reason why malware authors are looking for new avenues to infect computers, the head of BitDefender’s lab said. Users could be infected with the Trojan either from a drive-by download, which can infect a PC by exploiting a vulnerability in a browser, or by being duped into downloading it. When it runs on a PC, it registers itself in Firefox’s system files as “Greasemonkey,” a well-known collection of scripts that add extra functionality to Web pages rendered by Firefox.

Source: <http://www.networkworld.com/news/2008/120408-firefox-users-targeted-by-rare.html?page=1>

7. *December 4, Associated Press* – (California) **Feds charge Silicon Valley financier with fraud.** Federal prosecutors say the former co-owner of the NHL’s Nashville Predators faces a maximum of 25 years in prison if convicted of defrauding investors of more than \$100 million. The U.S. Attorney’s office Thursday filed a single criminal charge of fraud against the Silicon Valley venture capitalist. On the same day, the Securities and Exchange Commission filed a lawsuit against him seeking to recoup the investors’ money. Federal authorities say he claimed to have bank accounts showing vast holdings that did not belong to him. He is accused of using those bank statements to secure loans.

Source: <http://www.ksq.com/Global/story.asp?S=9460932>

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Transportation Sector

8. *December 3, Press-Enterprise* – (California) **Federal officials may sign off on new Metrolink safety system.** Federal officials will consider letting Metrolink install automatic train-stopping devices that local officials believe will help prevent accidents until a better system is in place. The Federal Railroad Administration decided to speed up the process of approving expanded use of so-called “automatic train stop” in the region, officials announced Tuesday. The 1950s-era system triggers the brakes on trains that run through stop signals, which was the cause of two recent accidents. Metrolink officials estimate the installation could be completed in nine months, and have set aside \$1.1 million. The automatic train-stop system is not a replacement for positive train control, the method long sought by federal officials that uses satellites and computers to slow or stop trains in danger of colliding. “We believe ATS will do no harm,” said a Railroad Administration spokesman Tuesday. “But our focus is on PTC and moving forward to install it as soon as possible.” Using global positioning systems, the

computers can stop or slow trains that pass warning and stop signals and also track speed and movement of the trains and report information back to a control center.

Source:

http://www.pe.com/localnews/inland/stories/PE_News_Local_S_train03.45ea2bb.html

9. *December 3, Daily Breeze* – (California) **Hahn rebukes Port disaster plan.** A Los Angeles city councilwoman on Wednesday slammed a proposed strategy that is supposed to help the Port of Los Angeles recover from a catastrophic terrorist attack or natural disaster. The plan, developed by port executives, was decried by the councilwoman as too vague and incomplete in detailing how to resume business the day after disaster strikes the nation's busiest port. Port officials presented the latest draft of the disaster recovery plan to the City Council's Trade, Commerce and Tourism Committee on Wednesday, noting that many of the specifics sought by the council are highly sensitive to security and are listed in a separate emergency preparedness plan. Additionally, many of the port's terminal operators and shipping lines have their own contingency plans in the event of an emergency, said the chief of the Los Angeles Port Police. The twin ports of Los Angeles and Long Beach are the largest in the nation, handling more than 40 percent of the nation's goods.

Source: http://www.dailybreeze.com/news/ci_11132238

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Postal and Shipping Sector

10. *December 4, KNXV 15 Phoenix* – (Arizona) **Scottsdale PD: Suspicious letter found, businesses evacuated.** A suspicious envelope delivered to a Scottsdale Jewish center Thursday did not contain any harmful material, according to a police spokesman. The envelope was delivered to the Chabad Learning Center, near Scottsdale Road and Shea Boulevard. Three businesses were evacuated as bomb squad technicians checked out the envelope left at the center. It is not certain yet whether the envelope was dropped off or mailed, according to police. Reportedly, a police K9 was sent to check the envelope and signaled that there was something inside. Bomb squad members rendered the item safe, according to police. The center employee who found that envelope said the writing on the outside of the envelope referred to recent attacks on a Jewish Chabad in Mumbai, India. Agents from the FBI, ATF, and Postal Service are investigating.

Source: <http://www.abc15.com/content/news/phoenixmetro/story/Scottsdale-PD-Suspicious-letter-found-businesses/eWiFrFVFCE-vAJHG8Lw27Q.csp>

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Agriculture and Food Sector

11. *December 5, Palm Beach Post* – (Florida) **Grower to plant altered citrus.** Disease-resistant trees that could save the Florida citrus industry from its two biggest threats — greening and canker — are scheduled to be planted in Southern Gardens Citrus groves starting in early 2009, the company said Thursday. Genetically altered red grapefruit trees already have been shown to resist the two bacterial diseases in lab tests by

researchers at Texas A&M University's AgriLife complex. Southern Gardens, a subsidiary of U.S. Sugar, owns 16,500 acres of active groves and produces and packages orange juice. It is believed to be the first time such experimental citrus has been planted anywhere outside a laboratory. There is no cure for either disease. Testing has been especially tricky because the bacteria that cause greening, also called Huanglongbing or yellow dragon disease, have been on the Federal Government's bioterrorism select agent list. Infected trees produce bitter, misshapen fruit. Since 2005, it has spread to 30 citrus-producing Florida counties, as well as Louisiana. Canker, a less severe bacterial disease that causes blemished fruit, was the target of an 11-year, \$1.6 billion eradication program in Florida.

Source: http://www.freshplaza.com/news_detail.asp?id=34543

12. *December 5, USAgNet* – (Illinois) **FDA cooperative agreement helps Illinois maintain BSE inspections.** The Illinois Department of Agriculture (IDOA) will receive nearly half a million dollars in federal funding to conduct important inspections for bovine spongiform encephalopathy (BSE), otherwise known as mad cow disease. The U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) has entered into a cooperative agreement with the department that will provide a total of \$499,722 over the next two years to ensure cattle feed produced and used in Illinois does not contain ingredients that could transmit the rare brain-wasting disease. The Illinois Agriculture director said that “this agreement will allow us to maintain our expanded on-farm surveillance efforts. We believe these inspections provide additional assurance to consumers and our agricultural trading partners that Illinois beef is safe to eat.” Over the next two years, IDOA inspectors will conduct an additional 300 BSE on-farm inspections and 100 non-farm inspections, collecting at least 1,000 feed samples.

Source: <http://www.usagnet.com/story-national.php?Id=2836&yr=2008>

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Water Sector

13. *December 4, Water Tech Online* – (National) **Low levels of man-made chemicals in drinking water: USGS.** Low levels of certain man-made chemicals remain in some treated drinking water supplies, according to soon-to-be released data from the U.S. Geological Survey (USGS). According to a USGS media advisory, the USGS conducted studies in Indiana, Texas, Maryland, North Carolina, Georgia, Massachusetts, Oregon, Nevada, and Colorado. Water from nine selected rivers, used as sources for public water systems, was analyzed in the USGS study. Scientists tested water samples for commonly used chemicals, including pesticides, solvents, gasoline hydrocarbons, personal care products, disinfection byproducts, and manufacturing additives. Scientists found that low levels of certain man-made chemicals remain in public water supplies after the water has been treated in selected communities. Most of the man-made chemicals assessed are not required to be monitored, regulated, or removed from water treatment facilities, the USGS stated. Findings and implications for treated and untreated water in different areas of the country are scheduled to be presented by the USGS on December 5 in Washington, D.C., in cooperation with the Environmental and Energy Study Institute and the Water Environment Federation, the

media advisory said.

Source: http://watertechnonline.com/news.asp?N_ID=71055

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Public Health and Healthcare Sector

14. *December 5, Los Angeles Times* – (California) **California health agency ignored law helping impoverished HIV patients, judge rules.** A Los Angeles County Superior Court judge ruled in a decision made public Thursday that the current state administration ignored a six-year-old State law by failing to enact a program intended to provide medical care to impoverished Californians with HIV. He ordered the state Department of Health Care Services to carry out the program, which is supposed to help people with HIV obtain treatment through the state's Medi-Cal program for the poor. Medi-Cal already covers people once their illness fully develops, when the cost of care is often much higher. Hundreds or possibly thousands of people with HIV have lost out on healthcare because the state resisted enacting the law, said the president of the AIDS Healthcare Foundation, the Los Angeles-based nonprofit that brought the lawsuit.

Source: <http://www.latimes.com/features/health/la-me-hiv5-2008dec05,0,6358115.story>

15. *December 4, Reuters* – (International) **Vaccine makers urge speedy accord on pandemic plan.** Governments need to overcome their “pandemic fatigue” and act quickly to finalize a response plan to potential flu threats, leading drug makers said on Thursday. The pharmaceutical industry is “very close to ready” to respond to a potential outbreak by shifting seasonal flu vaccine production to more targeted pandemic ones, said a GSK Biologics spokesman, who also said that countries needed to stop stalling and craft an accord on sharing samples of virus strains with pandemic potential for tests that accelerate efforts to formulate effective vaccines. “We don’t have time to negotiate a new agreement when a pandemic arises. We need to get on with manufacturing quickly,” he said. “Time is of the essence to ensure good vaccine supply.”

Source: <http://www.reuters.com/article/healthNews/idUSTRE4B34Z920081204>

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Government Facilities Sector

16. *December 4, Daily Press* – (Virginia) **Man charged in threat.** A Richmond man has been charged with sending a bloodstained letter to a U.S. Representative that described a Virginia Tech-style massacre and a threat to behead a U.S. Consular employee in Vietnam. The defendant was reportedly upset because his wife has been denied entry into the U.S. Arrested by the FBI on Tuesday, he is in custody and faces a hearing Friday in federal court in Richmond. According to court papers, the defendant sent the letter to the Richmond office of the U.S. Representative, where an intern noticed the bloodstain and notified other employees in the office. The defendant told the FBI that

his wife had applied for a U.S. visa and was denied by the U.S. Consulate in Vietnam. The U.S. Representative apparently entered the picture because his office forwarded a copy of the rejection letter to the defendant.

Source: http://www.dailypress.com/news/local/dp-local_threat_1204dec04,0,4637069.story

17. *December 4, Russellville Courier* – (Arizona) **Bomb threat closes courthouse.** For the second time this week, the Pope County Sheriff's Office evacuated and searched a building for explosives, this time at the Pope County Courthouse in Russellville, Arizona. The courthouse was evacuated Wednesday morning around 10 a.m. after an unidentified male caller contacted an employee at the Pope County Circuit Clerk's Office and insinuated there was a bomb in the building, the Pope County judge said. The Pope County judge and the Pope County sheriff, whose office is investigating the threat, shut down the courthouse for more than two hours while law enforcement officers and a bomb unit checked the building. The courthouse was reopened at approximately 12:30 p.m.

Source: <http://www.couriernews.com/story.php?ID=20086>

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Emergency Services Sector

18. *December 4, Government Technology* – (California) **California to merge emergency services and homeland security.** California's AB 38 — signed by the governor in September — established the California Emergency Management Agency as a Cabinet-level entity responsible for emergency management and homeland security operations and set the deadline for appointing a secretary at January 1, 2009. The governor has less than a month to decide on a plan to merge the Governor's Office of Emergency Services and the Governor's Office of Homeland Security into the new agency. "While serving as chair of the joint committee on emergency services and homeland security we heard from first responders over and over again how they wanted to see the two agencies merge into one," said an assemblyman from the 35th district and chairman of the Joint Committee on Emergency Preparedness and Homeland Security. The bill gives the merged agency the responsibility of overseeing and coordinating emergency preparedness, response, recovery, and homeland security activities in the state. "The merger demonstrates the Governor's ongoing commitment to an all-hazards preparedness, response, recovery and mitigation approach," the director of the Governor's Office of Emergency Services said.

Source: <http://www.govtech.com/gt/articles/568171>

19. *December 3, KTUU 2 Anchorage* – (Alaska) **Alaska Guard completes simulated nuclear attack.** The Alaska National Guard's 103rd Civil Support Team responded to a simulated attack on a party at the Alaska Railroad depot Tuesday night. The training helps ensure the Guard is ready to defend against nuclear, chemical, and biological attacks. During the drill, soldiers evacuated people from the building and used detectors to check for contaminants. "This prepares the local community and assures state officials that they have the capability to respond to an incident of weapons of mass

destruction,” said the exercise director of the United States Army Pacific.

Source: <http://www.ktuu.com/Global/story.asp?S=9455837>

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Information Technology

20. *December 4, Reuters* – (International) **Destructive Koobface virus turns up on Facebook.** Facebook’s 120 million users are being targeted by a virus dubbed “Koobface” that uses the social network’s messaging system to infect PCs, and then tries to gather sensitive information such as credit card numbers. It is the latest attack by hackers increasingly looking to prey on users of social networking sites. Koobface spreads by sending notes to friends of someone whose PC has been infected. The messages, with subject headers like, “You look just awesome in this new movie,” direct recipients to a website where they are asked to download what it claims is an update of Adobe Systems Inc.’s Flash player. If they download the software, users end up with an infected computer, which then takes users to contaminated sites when they try to use search engines from Google, Yahoo, MSN, and Live.com, according to McAfee. McAfee warned in a blog entry on Wednesday that its researchers had discovered that Koobface was making the rounds on Facebook. Privately held Facebook has told members to delete contaminated e-mails and has posted directions at www.facebook.com/security on how to clean infected computers.

Source: <http://www.reuters.com/article/wtMostRead/idUSTRE4B37LV20081204>

21. *December 5, VNUNet* – (International) **Security attacks reach 2.5 billion per day.** In response to a massive rise in Web-based threats, IBM has announced a number of new initiatives which it claims will improve enterprise security. The company said that its Internet Security Systems (ISS) business had sprung into action after its X-Force division identified two “startling” developments: a 30 percent increase in network and Web-based security incidents over the past 120 days; and a 40 percent increase in the number of its clients accessing IBM virtual security operations centers. IBM said that based on data from its 3,700 managed security services customers worldwide, the number of security events had risen from 1.8 billion to 2.5 billion per day over the past four months, and noted that a significant proportion of clients logging in to the security center had not done so in the previous six months. In response to these incidents, IBM’s ISS division plans to introduce new identity and access management services which will help companies govern access to sensitive data and applications.

Source: <http://www.vnunet.com/vnunet/news/2232104/ibm-boosts-security-services>

Internet Alert Dashboard

To report cyber infrastructure incidents or to request information, please contact US-CERT at soc@us-cert.gov or visit their Website: <http://www.us-cert.gov>.

Information on IT information sharing and analysis can be found at the IT ISAC (Information Sharing and Analysis Center) Website: <https://www.it-isac.org/>.

Communications Sector

22. *December 5, IDG News Service* – (National) **U.S. broadband Internet satellite scheduled for launch in 2011.** A California satellite technology provider has signed a deal to put a planned broadband Internet satellite into orbit above the United States in the first half of 2011. The ViaSat-1 satellite will be launched on board an Arianespace rocket from the European space port in Kourou, French Guiana, according to the terms of the deal that was announced on Thursday. The satellite will have an overall throughput of 100G bits per second (bps), which should enable it to support 2M bps service to about 2 million subscribers when operational. It is expected to be the highest capacity satellite in the world at time of launch, and that should mean the price of transmitting each bit of data is about a tenth that of current services.
Source: <http://www.networkworld.com/news/2008/120508-us-broadband-internet-satellite-scheduled.html?hpg1=bn>

Commercial Facilities Sector

23. *December 5, WRIC 8 Richmond* – (Virginia) **Richmond man allegedly sends threat to congressman.** A Richmond man is accused of sending a threatening letter to a U.S. Representative's office in Virginia. According to federal court documents, a Richmond resident admitted to biting his own thumb open to spill blood on a letter he sent to the congressman's office two weeks ago. The federal documents also say that the letter contained threats of a Virginia Tech-style massacre. The documents refer to an FBI agent's interview with the man where he allegedly says that he thinks about driving a truck with a thousand gallons of gas and a pilot light in front and then driving into a church, daycare center, or school.
Source: <http://www.wric.com/Global/story.asp?S=9461411>
24. *December 4, Berkshire Eagle* – (Massachusetts) **Girl, home exposed.** An elementary school-aged girl underwent medical treatment and her family's West End home has been condemned in the aftermath of an intentional mercury spill at Conte Middle School, city officials said Wednesday. During a briefing at City Hall on Wednesday afternoon, commissioner of public safety said authorities have been tracking further exposures of the chemical from its original spill point on the first floor of Conte Middle School. The trail has led to environmental testing in school buses used to transport Conte's roughly 400 students home Monday after the school was evacuated, a day care center, a nearby church, Greylock Elementary School, and two locations in Pittsfield. All areas tested, other than the girl's home, were found to be okay. The commissioner of public safety said it is possible the chemical was tracked into either New York or Vermont. The investigation is ongoing, he said. Meanwhile, the homeowner — whom authorities would not identify — has the option to clean or demolish the condemned home. North Adams police investigators are consulting with the Berkshire County District Attorney's office to decide what charges will be leveled against the young male

student who intentionally dumped the liquid mercury. They declined to say if any other individuals might be implicated.

Source: http://www.berkshireeagle.com/ci_11135400

25. *December 3, MSNBC* – (National) **DHS and FBI brief U.S. building owners on Mumbai attacks.** The U.S. Department of Homeland Security (DHS) and the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) Wednesday briefed building owners in the United States “regarding the tactics terrorists used in the attacks last week in Mumbai, India.” The five-page “Intelligence and Analysis Note” said that the DHS and FBI “have no credible or specific information that terrorists are planning operations against public buildings in the United States.” But it is important for building owners and operators “to be aware of potential attack tactics,” the note said. The note included some lesser known facts about the terrorist assault for example, that the “attack planners used publicly available commercial imagery to plan the attack,” such as satellite mapping of Mumbai. It added that while “at least 10 operatives” circumvented security by entering Mumbai from the sea, “others arrived in the city as many as four days prior to the attack.” The note said that the terrorists “were clean shaven and dressed in Western street clothing, possibly to blend in with the population” and that they entered the Taj Mahal Hotel through back alleys to surprise security guards. Once inside, they “moved continuously throughout the facilities.” The constant movement “made it difficult for authorities to identify locations of attackers and hostages,” the FBI and DHS wrote. The unclassified note also pointed out similarities in the attack and the terror tactics discussed on a jihadist training tape that European authorities seized earlier this year. Source: <http://deepbackground.msnbc.msn.com/archive/2008/12/03/1697873.aspx>

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National Monuments & Icons Sector

26. *December 4, New York Times* – (National; Arizona) **Interior Dept. changes rule to remove Congress veto.** The Interior Department on Thursday unveiled a new rule that challenges Congress’ authority to prevent mining planned on public lands. Congress has emergency power to stop mineral development and has used it six times in the last 32 years. The most recent was in June, when it put a three-year moratorium on uranium mining on 1 million acres near the Grand Canyon. The Interior Secretary has ignored that congressional directive, saying it was procedurally flawed. The revision of the rule eliminates all references to congressional authority. The rule seems to underscore the Interior Department’s determination to leave public land near Grand Canyon National Park in northern Arizona open for mineral development. Source: <http://www.nytimes.com/2008/12/05/us/05withdraw.html?em>

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Dams Sector

27. *December 4, Bridgeport News* – (Connecticut) **Funds secured to fix dam at Lake Forest.** Funds to finance the repair of the Lake Forest dam in Bridgeport are expected

to be approved by the State Bond Commission at its December 12 meeting, according to the governor. The state will provide \$2.2 million to repair the dam at the lake, which is surrounded by residential homes. Lake Forest was an active reservoir when northern Bridgeport was less developed. Neighborhood residents, especially members of the Lake Forest Association, have been pushing for years to have the dam replaced. The dam is in fair to poor condition, according to a news release by the governor's office, and the spillway may not be able to hold back the amount of water expected in a 100-year flood. That means water could go over the dam and endanger nearby homes during an extremely heavy rainfall. "The dam is a high-hazard structure with many homes and neighborhoods downstream in the path of any potential dam failure," the governor said. "The repair of this dam will directly benefit the residences situated on the lake as well the many residences that surround the area." The dam, once owned by the Bridgeport Hydraulic Co., is now owned by the city of Bridgeport and individual homeowner members of the Lake Forest Association.

Source: http://www.acorn-online.com/joomla15/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=15278:funds-secured-to-fix-dam-at-lake-forest&catid=147:local-news&Itemid=567

28. *December 4, Argus Leader* – (South Dakota) **Feds sign off on levee project.** The White House budget office and the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers have approved a plan that could help Sioux Falls complete its Big Sioux flood control project sooner and save money in the long run. The Army Corps is planning to enlarge the footprint of Sioux Falls' 100-year flood plain in March, adding 1,600 homes and businesses that were not in the old flood plain map. The work consists of raising levees along the Big Sioux River and Skunk Creek by 5 feet, building a new dam, and raising the 41st Street bridge.

Source: <http://www.argusleader.com/article/20081204/NEWS/812040313/1001>

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DHS Daily Open Source Infrastructure Report Contact Information

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Contact DHS

To report physical infrastructure incidents or to request information, please contact the National Infrastructure Coordinating Center at nicc@dhs.gov or (202) 282-9201.

To report cyber infrastructure incidents or to request information, please contact US-CERT at soc@us-cert.gov or visit their Web page at www.us-cert.gov.

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